

FILE

STATION REPLY COPY



PRODUCTION AND PLANT RECEIPTS OF VENEER LOGS IN CALIFORNIA 1956

RICHARD H. MAY

FOREST SURVEY
RELEASE No. 27
AUGUST — 1957

CALIFORNIA FOREST AND RANGE EXPERIMENT STATION
KEITH ARNOLD, DIRECTOR
FOREST SERVICE - U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

cc: Christopher

PRODUCTION AND PLANT REPORTS
OF VENEZUELA LOGS IN CALIFORNIA
RICHARD H. MAY 1988

The California Forest and Range Experiment Station is
maintained at Berkeley, California, in cooperation with the
University of California.

Agriculture--Forest Service, Berkeley, Calif.

PRODUCTION AND PLANT RECEIPTS OF VENEER LOGS
IN CALIFORNIA, 1956

By Richard H. May, Forester
Division of Forest Economics

Veneer and plywood production, a tiny segment of California's forest industry 10 years ago, is rapidly reaching sizable proportions. This is indicated by a survey of peeler log receipts at manufacturing plants in California and of logs shipped out of state, recently completed by the California Forest and Range Experiment Station.

California loggers cut half a billion board-feet of logs for veneer and plywood plants in 1956, the survey shows, nearly all for home consumption. In 1946, only 48 million board-feet of peeler logs were produced--less than one-tenth of the 1956 volume.^{1/} In 1952, the latest previous year for which comparable figures are available, production amounted to a little more than one-fourth billion board-feet.^{2/} The difference represents an 84 percent increase in 4 years.

Highlights of the 1956 peeler-log survey are presented here to show the status of this growing segment of the industry. Detailed findings are still being assembled, and will be reported in a later Station publication accounting for the output of all forest products in 1956.

^{1/} Burks, G. F., Vaux, H. J., May, R. H., and Simontacchi, A. Commodity production from commercial forest land in California, 1946. U. S. Forest Serv. Calif. Forest and Range Expt. Sta. Forest Survey Release 6 (Table 9). 38 pp., illus. 1948.

^{2/} May, Richard H. Output of forest products in California, 1952. U. S. Forest Serv. Calif. Forest and Range Expt. Sta. Forest Survey Release 23 (Table 2). 10 pp. 1954.

PEELER LOG PRODUCTION: A total of 502 million board-feet of peeler logs was cut in 1956, 98 percent of it destined for veneer and plywood plants in California. The remainder went to plants in southern Oregon. In turn, California plants received about 1 percent of their peeler logs from Oregon.

<u>California Peeler Production</u>	<u>Million bd.-ft.</u>
Marketed in California	491
Marketed in Oregon	<u>11</u>
Total	502

Receipts at California Plants

Logs cut in California	491
Logs cut in Oregon	<u>5</u>
Total	496

SPECIES CUT FOR PEELERS: Douglas-fir accounted for 90 percent of the State's 1956 peeler log production. Even in the pine region (see map), Douglas-fir was the leading species.

<u>Species</u>	<u>Million bd.-ft.</u>
Douglas-fir	456
Ponderosa and sugar pines	32
Digger and lodgepole pines	7
True firs	5
Cedar and redwood	1
Spruce and hemlock	1
Hardwoods	<u>(N)</u>
Total production	502

N = negligible (less than 50 thousand bd.-ft.)

TYPE OF PLANT: California had 14 plywood plants peeling logs in 1956 (vs. 12 in 1952); also, 17 green veneer plants (vs. 10 in 1952), which sent veneer to California plywood plants both with and without lathes, and also to some plywood plants in Oregon.

Container veneer plants peeling logs or bolts numbered 5 in 1956, a reduction from 9 in 1952. The container veneer from these plants went largely into fruit and vegetable crates.

One special veneer plant in California in 1956 sliced redwoods and hardwoods.

The plywood plants, though fewer in number, received more peeler logs than the green veneer plants.

<u>Type of Plant</u>	<u>Receipts Million bd.-ft.</u>
Plywood with lathe	274
Green veneer	218
Container & special veneer	<u>4</u>
Total receipts	496

REGION AND COUNTY OF PLANT LOCATION: About three-fourths of the plants which received peeler logs (28 of the total 37) were in the Redwood Region (see map), largely in the three northern counties: Del Norte, Humboldt, and Mendocino. The Redwood Region plants received 86 percent of the peelers in 1956. The 9 Pine Region plants received the remainder.

<u>Region of Plant Location</u>	<u>Receipts Million bd.-ft.</u>
Redwood	426
Pine	<u>70</u>
Total receipts	496

Leading counties in volume of peeler log receipts were:

<u>County</u>	<u>Receipts Million bd. ft.</u>
Humboldt	209
Del Norte	147
Mendocino	51
Siskiyou	32

REGION AND COUNTY OF LOG ORIGIN: The Redwood Region also led the Pine in volume of peelers produced in 1956, though its dominance was not quite so pronounced as with log receipts:

<u>Region of Log Origin</u>	<u>Production</u> <u>Million</u> <u>bd.-ft.</u>
Redwood	410
Pine	<u>92</u>
Total production	502

Humboldt County produced more peelers than its plants received, most of the difference apparently going to Del Norte County, whose production was much less than its receipts. Both Mendocino and Siskiyou Counties also produced more logs than their plants received, the difference going to other California counties, and (from Siskiyou) to Oregon. The same four counties led in peeler production as led in peeler receipts:

<u>County</u>	<u>Production</u> <u>Million</u> <u>bd.ft.</u>
Humboldt	263
Del Norte	80
Mendocino	66
Siskiyou	<u>52</u>

SIZE-CLASS OF PLANTS: Log receipts generally approximate log consumption at plywood and veneer plants. Classification of these plants by volume of peelers received in 1956, to indicate capacity, shows that the group which received 15 million board-feet or more of logs constituted almost half of the plants and received almost three-fourths of the peeler volume.

<u>Size-class</u> ^{3/} (basis 1956)	<u>Active</u> <u>plants</u> (No.)	<u>Receipts</u> (Million bd.-ft.)
15.0 million bd.-ft. and more ^{4/}	16	362.8
10.0 - 14.9 million bd.-ft.	7	90.9
5.0 - 9.9 " " "	5	32.4
1.0 - 4.9 " " "	4	8.5
0.9 million bd.-ft. and under	<u>5</u>	<u>1.4</u>
All classes	37	496.0

^{3/} Same classes as used for lumber production.

^{4/} Only 1 plant received more than 25 million bd.-ft.

VOLUME OF DEAD LOGS RECEIVED: A few years ago scarcely any dead logs were peeled for veneer. In 1952 it was estimated that all peeler logs were live when cut. But in 1956 plywood and veneer plants reported that 6 percent of the peeler logs they received came from dead material--trees killed by fire, insects, or other causes. By species, the dead volume was as follows:

<u>Species</u>	<u>Dead log receipts (Million bd.-ft.)</u>
Douglas-fir	24.0
Ponderosa pine	3.9
White fir	0.9
Sugar pine	0.2
Other species	<u>0.0</u>
All species	29.0

By counties of origin the dead-log volume was as follows:

<u>County</u>	<u>Million bd.-ft.</u>
Humboldt	17.6
Siskiyou ^{5/}	7.7
Other counties	<u>3.7</u>
All counties	29.0

^{5/} Many of the dead logs in Siskiyou County came off the Haystack burn.

PLYWOOD AND VENEER PLANTS PEELING LOGS AND BOLTS IN 1956 IN CALIFORNIA



- Plywood plant
- ▲ Green veneer plant
- Container veneer plant
- + Specialty veneer plant
- California Pine Region
- California Redwood Region



DIVISION OF FOREST ECONOMICS
CALIFORNIA FOREST AND RANGE EXPERIMENT STATION
FOREST SERVICE - U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
1957

Procedure

The Station mailed a questionnaire regarding log receipts to each of the plywood and veneer plants in the State known or believed to be peeling logs or bolts. All but 5 of the plants replied by mail. These 5 were visited in the field and the desired information obtained. The Station also received completed questionnaires from 31 loggers shipping logs out of California. Three of these reported shipping peelers to Oregon. Based on these reports, an estimate was made of a small volume of peelers shipped by non-reporting loggers. Information from the two sources was combined for an estimate of peeler log production.

Acknowledgments

The Station wishes to thank the plywood and veneer plants for contributing information on their 1956 log receipts, and also loggers shipping out-of-state for information on their shipments. The two sets of figures have made this report possible.